

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Prior to entry of this response, Claims 1, 5-7, 9-13, and 15-20 were pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 10, and 16 are independent. In the Office Action dated November 2, 2005, Claims 1, 5-7, 9-13, and 15-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Following this response, Claims 1, 5-7, 9-13, and 15-23 remain in this application, new claim 21-23 being added by this amendment. Applicant hereby addresses the Examiner's rejections in turn.

I. Rejection of the Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In the Office Action dated November 2, 2005, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 5-7, 9-13, and 15-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,415,019 ("*Savaglio*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,480,592 ("*Urban*") further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,697,783 ("*Brickman*") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,671,272 ("*Vaziri*"). Claims 1, 10, and 16 have been amended, and Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments overcome this rejection and add no new matter. Dependent Claims 9, 12, and 18 have been amended to comport with the amendments to independent Claims 1, 10, and 16 and add no new matter.

Amended Claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over the cited art for at least the reason that it recites, for example, "receiving a privacy indicator from an originating signal switching point." Amended Claims 10 and 16 each includes a similar recitation. Support for these amendments can be found in the specification at least on page 5, line 29 through page 6, line 6.

In contrast, consistent with an embodiment of the invention, during communication between an originating SSP 106 and a called party SSP 110, the originating SSP 106 forwards a calling party's telephone number. (See specification page 5, lines 29-31.) The SSP 106 may also forward a privacy indicator to the SSP 110 if a privacy indicator is appropriate. (See specification page 6, lines 1-2.) At query operation 206, the SSP 106 detects whether the privacy indicator is appropriate such as by referring to local service tables, or by querying an appropriate SCP with knowledge of the calling party's services. (See specification page 6, lines 2-4.) A privacy indicator may be appropriate where the calling party has subscribed or otherwise initiated privacy service to block distribution of caller ID and location ID data, for example. (See specification page 6, lines 4-6.)

Instead, *Savaglio* at least does not disclose receiving a privacy indicator from an originating signal switching point. For example, *Savaglio* merely discloses that a dialing telephone number is determined. (See col. 2, lines 45-46.) An associated outgoing telephone line is looked up. (See col. 2, lines 46-47.) A 911 call is placed over the associated outgoing telephone line, which ends the process. (See col. 2, lines 47-49.) The 911 call is received at a service switching point (SSP). (See col. 2, lines 49-50.) The 911 call is triggered "on" and the SSP sends a query to a switching control point (SCP). (See col. 2, lines 50-51.) A response is received that includes a routine instruction. (See col. 2, lines 51-52.) In one embodiment of *Savaglio*, the response includes the number of the associated outgoing telephone line. (See col. 2, lines 52-54.) In *Savaglio*, however, a privacy indicator is not received from a signal switching point (originating or otherwise), rather *Savaglio* merely discloses that a 911 call is

received at a service switching point. *Savaglio*, is silent regarding a signal switching point receiving a privacy indicator.

Furthermore, *Urban* does not overcome *Savaglio*'s deficiencies. *Urban* merely discloses a method and system for providing a name of a state of a calling party. In *Urban*, when a called party's SSP 50 attempts to terminate a call, SSP 50 triggers a query to its SCP 42 via an STP 44. (See. Col. 3, lines 4-5.) In particular, SSP 50 sends a triggered query over a signaling network via STP 44 to SCP 42 as it would send a network signaling protocol 60. (See. Col. 3, lines 5-8.) Like *Savaglio*, *Urban* at least does not disclose a signal switching point receiving a privacy indicator.

Moreover, *Brickman* does not overcome *Savaglio*'s and *Urban*'s deficiencies. *Brickman* merely discloses a computer implemented medical integrated decision support system. Like *Savaglio* and *Urban*, *Brickman* at least does not disclose a signal switching point, much less the signal switching point receiving a privacy indicator.

In addition, *Vaziri* does not overcome *Savaglio*'s, *Urban*'s, and *Brickman*'s deficiencies. *Vaziri* merely discloses an internet switch box including systems and methods for internet telephony. Like *Savaglio*, *Urban*, and *Brickman*, *Vaziri* at least does not disclose a privacy indicator, much less a signal switching point receiving the privacy indicator.

Combining *Savaglio* with *Urban*, *Brickman*, and *Vaziri* would not have led to the claimed invention because *Savaglio*, *Urban*, *Brickman*, and *Vaziri*, either individually or in combination, at least do not disclose, "receiving a privacy indicator from an originating signal switching point," as recited by amended Claim 1. Amended Claims 10 and 16 each includes a similar recitation. Accordingly, independent Claims 1, 10, and 16 each

patentably distinguishes the present invention over the cited art, and Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection of Claims 1, 10, and 16.

Dependent Claims 5-7, 9, 11-13, 15, and 17-20 are also allowable at least for the reasons described above regarding independent Claims 1, 10, and 16, and by virtue of their respective dependencies upon independent Claims 1, 10, and 16. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection of dependent Claims 5-7, 9, 11-13, 15, and 17-20.

II. New Claims

Claims 21-23 have been added to more distinctly define and to round out the protection for the invention to which Applicant is entitled. Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are allowable over the cited art and that they add no new matter. Support for these new claims can be found in the specification at least on page 5, line 29 through page 6, line 6.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims. The preceding arguments are based only on the arguments in the Office Action, and therefore do not address patentable aspects of the invention that were not addressed by the Examiner in the Office Action. The claims may include other elements that are not shown, taught, or suggested by the cited art. Accordingly, the preceding argument in favor of patentability is advanced without prejudice to other

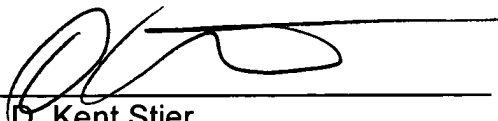
bases of patentability. Furthermore, the Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicant declines to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____


D. Kent Stier
Reg. No. 50,640

Merchant & Gould
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-9946
Telephone: 404.954.5066



DKS:mdb